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In re the Application of: NISHIUCHI, et al.

Group Art Unit: 1763

Date: May 8, 2006

Serial No.: 10/615,381

Examiner: Richard R. BUEKER

Filed: July 9, 2003

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 1378

For. SURFACE TREATING PROCESS, SURFACE TREATING APPARATUS, VAPOR-DEPOSITING MATERIAL, AND RARE EARTH METAL-BASED PERMANENT MAGNET WITH SURFACE TREATED

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a Response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment for the Preliminary Amendment, which was filed concurrently with an RCE, in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on April 20, 2006. Please amend the above-captioned patent application as follows: